

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-13, 15, 17-23, 25, 27-32, 34, 36-41, 43, 45, 47, 49-52, 54, 56, 58, and 60 have been amended. Claims 5, 7, 14, 16, 24, 26, 33, 35, 42, 44, 46, 48, 53, 55, 57, and 59 are also in the case. Reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

II. The Rejection of Claims 1-60

Claims 1 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Logan et al. U.S. Patent 5,721,827 (hereinafter "Logan"). In addition, claims 2-17 and 21-60 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants' invention relates to an Internet television program guide e-mail reminder system for reminding users of scheduled television events via e-mail over the Internet. As specified in claims 1 and 20, this arrangement involves providing television program listings 220 (as shown in FIG. 2) over the Internet 24 (as shown in FIG. 1) and allowing a user to order an e-mail reminder for a selected program (as shown in FIGS. 2 and 3). Because the e-mail reminders (as shown in FIG. 6) and the television program listings are sent over the Internet, the user is

able to order and receive e-mail reminders anywhere, provided the user has access to e-mail software and the Internet.

The features of claims 1 and 20 are not shown or even suggested in Logan. Logan discloses an audio program and message distribution system that is configured to selectively deliver customized audio programming in accordance with the preferences of individual subscribers. The system described in Logan does not provide e-mail reminders over the Internet for scheduled television events. Unlike applicants' invention, which involves reminding users of when television programs are to be broadcast, the system shown in Logan involves the delivery of audio programs that are stored on a remote server and that are selected, arranged, and downloaded according to the preferences of individual users.

Despite the absence in Logan of any teaching or suggestion of providing e-mail reminders over the Internet for scheduled television events, the Office action nevertheless alleges that the following sections in Logan disclose the invention defined in claims 1 and 20:

ABSTRACT and FIG. 1;

col. 1, line 5 to col. 2, line 29;

col. 20, line 31 to col. 21, line 9;

col. 14, line 42 to col. 15, line 14;

col. 41, lines 8-51;

col. 42, lines 10-19;

FIGS. 5 and 7; and

col. 37, lines 14-26.

However, these sections in Logan clearly fail to describe the claimed invention. For example, there is no mention or suggestion of sending users e-mail reminders for scheduled television programs in either the ABSTRACT, FIG. 1, or col. 1, line 5 to col. 2, line 29 in Logan.

Although the word "e-mail" does appear in col. 20, line 31 to col. 21, line 9 in Logan, it is in the context of a description of the various profile fields associated with subscriber records. Col. 14, line 42 to col. 15, line 14 in Logan also mention e-mail, but not in the context of sending reminders of scheduled television programs. Rather, that portion of Logan describes using e-mail as a way to send bookmarks of audio program segments.

In col. 41, lines 8-51 and col. 42, lines 10-19, Logan describes another use for e-mail that does not relate to program reminders. Instead, these sections in Logan describe how subscriber comments may be sent via e-mail and discuss how a commenting facility might function as a discussion forum. As for FIGS. 5 and 7 in Logan, these two figures simply do not show the arrangement for ordering e-mail reminders that is set forth in claims 1 and 20.

At col. 37, lines 14-26, Logan indicates that the "player may be programmed to issue timed messages to the

listener." However, these "timed messages" originate locally at the user's equipment (i.e. at player 103 of FIG. 1). Accordingly, these "timed messages" are not e-mail messages sent over the Internet. Hence, this cited portion of Logan also fails to anticipate the claimed invention.

Because nothing in the cited passages of Logan or anything else in Logan shows or suggests the features of claims 1 and 20, claims 1 and 20 are not anticipated by Logan. Claims 1 and 20 are therefore in condition for allowance. Claims 2-19 and 21-60 are also allowable because they depend from claims 1 and 20.

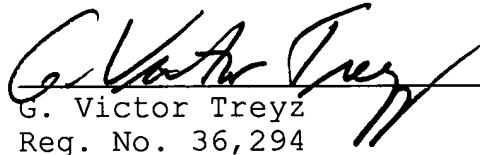
III. Request for Acknowledgment of Formal Drawings

Applicants request acknowledgment of the formal drawings filed July 29, 1998.

IV. Conclusion

The foregoing demonstrates that claims 1-60 are allowable. This application is therefore in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are accordingly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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